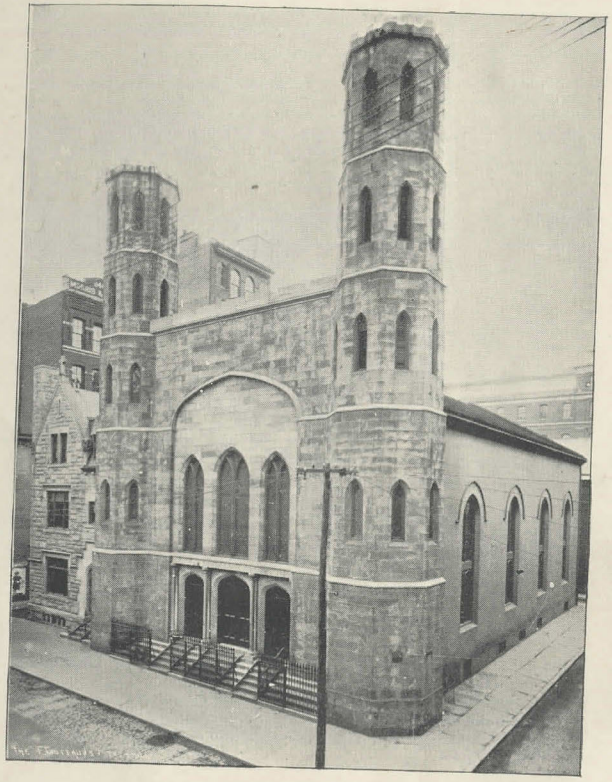
FERRIS & LEACH

St. Stephen's Church

Philadelphia



St. Stephen's Church

9 SOUTH TENTH STREET

Philadelphia, Pa.

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Rector

THE REVEREND CARL ECKHARDT GRAMMER, S. T. D.

Assistant

THE REVEREND ROBERT LONG

Vestry

MR. J. HUNTER EWING, Accounting Warden

MR. BEAUVEAU BORIE, Rector's Warden

MR. J. ALBERT CALDWELL

MR. JOHN T. LEWIS, JR.

MR. ROLAND S. MORRIS

MR. JOSEPH B. VANDUSEN, JR.

MR. WILLIAM H. HOLLAR

MR. WILLIAM H. HANSELL

MR. CHARLES L. MCKEEHAN

DR. ADDINELL HEWSON

MR. WILLIAM R. TAYLOR

MR. C. HOWARD COLKET

Year 1910

Foreword

At the request of the St. Stephen's Chapter of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, I have compiled this brief account of the memorials in St. Stephen's for the information of our visiting friends, that they may enjoy our interesting memorials with understanding of their history as well as with æsthetic delight. It has seemed expedient to add a list of our societies, that the visitor may also gain some idea of the multiform activities of a church that, being situated in the heart of a great city, is able to touch the very heart of many problems; that has boys among its scholars who need places to play in; girls who require diversion and opportunities for friendship; and that is surrounded by students and clerks in boarding houses, and is near many homes, that need all the healing powers of Christianity to enable them to resist the demoralizing influences that encompass them. This list will show that St. Stephen's is a working church, that opens a fine field for those who desire to be laborers in the vineyard.

It has no society that gives more promise for the future than its chapter of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew of over thirty members that has already done much in its existence of a little more

than a year by its banquets and work of all sorts to band the men of the Church more closely together. Its members supply the ushers at all our services, and they would be glad if any visitors would make themselves known to them, that they may give them a hearty welcome.

In the information of this little pamphlet the discerning visitor will detect the friendly greeting of a church that is introducing itself to him in the hope that he may be drawn to introduce himself to such a church. May this little brochure be blessed to bring about that result.

CARL ECKHARDT GRAMMER.

Year 1910

St. Stephen's Church

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St. Stephen's Church is recognized as one of the churches of Philadelphia that has a great history and holds a peculiar position in the community.

Its foundation in 1823 A.D., was one of the results of a great influx into the Episcopal Church that marked the early decades of the nineteenth century, when the popular prejudice against the daughter of the Church of England had lost its power.

To modern eyes, the exterior of the edifice is severely simple and somewhat fortress-like, but it is described in early accounts as "a specimen of the Gothic Architecture of the Middle Ages." It is interesting to know that the aim of the congregation was to erect a building in which the historic position of our Church and its peculiar characteristics should be fittingly expressed.

The first rector was the Rev. James Montgomery, D.D., to whose memory a memorial has been placed in the south wall, near the font. The taste of the Georgian era for classical archi-

tecture and embellishments is manifested in the slender memorial urns on both sides of the tablet.

His successor was the Rev. Henry William Ducachet, M.D. and D.D., whose fine personal presence, ready wit and social charm, combined to make him one of the most interesting personalities of Philadelphia in his day. During his rectorship the Burd memorials were given to the Church. Colonel Edward Shippen Burd, who died in 1848, enjoined his executors in his will to erect in St. Stephen's Church a memorial of the finest Italian marble to the memory of his three children. The commission was given to Carl Steinhauser, a native of Bremen, born 1813, who went at an early age to Berlin to study under Rauch, and later went to Rome, where he received instruction from Thorwaldsen. His art was regarded as reflecting glory upon his native city, and a reproduction in plaster of the group, known from its chief figure as " The Angel of the Resurrection," which he executed for St. Stephen's, may still be seen on exhibition in Bremen, with an inscription stating where the original may be found. The student of art will be interested to know that there are three pieces of statuary by Steinhauser in the Academy of the Fine Arts, Broad and Cherry Streets. The mural monument

THE BURD MEMORIAL

with its recumbent effigy of Colonel Burd, near the door, was erected by Mrs. Burd in the following year. These two monuments are still unsurpassed of their kind in America.

Besides these monuments, Mrs. Burd gave a large sum to St. Stephen's Church, and also founded, with a munificent gift of $500,000, a school and home for orphan girls, which she placed for all time under the control of the Rector and Vestry of St. Stephen's. Its stately and picturesque buildings stand in a fine park near the corner of Market and Sixty-third Streets.

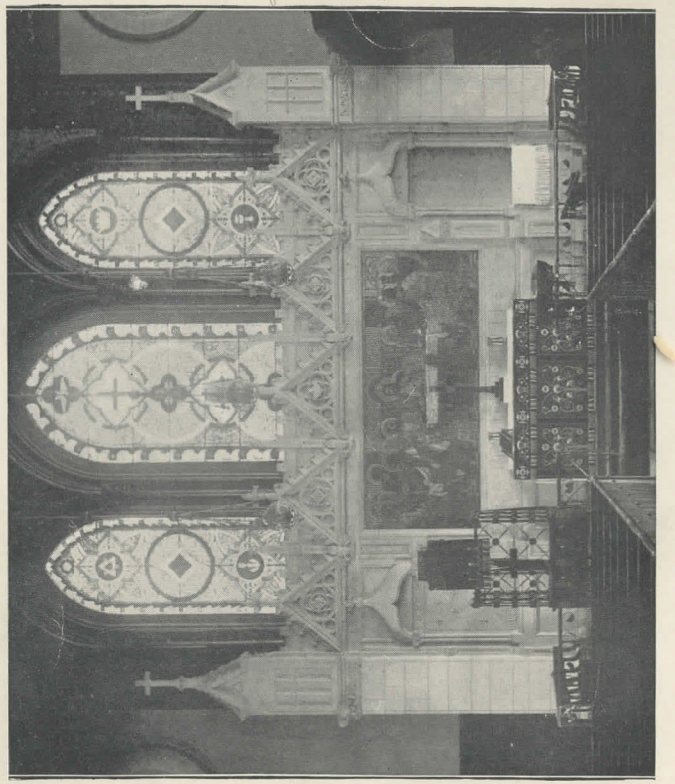
In 1859, the year before her death, Mrs. Burd presented the Church with the Font which stands in the southwest corner, near the door. It was sculptured in Italy by Steinhauser, and represents three cherubs supporting on their wings a large marble bowl. Each cherub has in his hands one of the instruments of the Saviour's torture, the nail, the crown of thorns and the spear. The angel with the nail is testing the sharpness of its point on his chubby hand. Inside the bowl are sculptured in relief the sacred fish, by which the early Christians secretly expressed their faith. Christ's use of the net with the fish, in a parable of the Kingdom, is brought to mind by the mural decorations back of the font.

These memorials all belong to Dr. Ducachet's rectorship. His personal memorial is a handsome bust of Italian marble that stands in a slight recess in the south wall, under a beautiful and richly-decorated ogee arch.

Under his successor, Dr. Rudder, the congregation grew so large that the north transept was added. At the same time the whole Church was decorated by Mr. Frank Furness, of Philadelphia. In the summer of 1909, chiefly through the liberality of Miss Julia Garrett, this decoration was restored. The color scheme is rich and unusual, and sets off admirably the pure beauty of the memorial marbles and the stately reredos with its brilliant mosaic-picture. A handsome brass and marble tablet on the south wall commemorates Dr. Rudder's great ministry. He was succeeded by Dr. S. D. McConnell, under whom the Parish House next to the Church was built on the site of an old grave-yard. The tombstones are preserved in the pavement of the cloister. One of the most interesting tablets is let into the wall just outside the door, and commemorates three medical students from the South, who died in Philadelphia, A.D., 1825, while pursuing their studies at the University of Pennsylvania.

In 1889 the Venetian mosaic of The Last

The last service of this altar was July 29th 1917



REREDOS AND MOSAIC "THE LAST SUPPER"

St. Stephen's Church, Philadelphia

Supper was presented to the Church by the children of Mrs. James Magee in memory of their mother. It was made from cartoons drawn by Henry Holiday, of London, and was executed under his own supervision, partly by workmen of Salviati in Venice, and partly by Mr. and Mrs. Holiday's own hands. All the heads were executed by Mr. and Mrs. Holiday. It contains upwards of 180,000 pieces, and has a surface of sixty square feet. It was a show-piece at a garden fête in London, where Mr. Gladstone was a guest, and he made an address of an hour upon it. Mr. Holiday is still living, and has attained fame both as a painter and a sculptor. His pictures have been exhibited chiefly in the Grosvenor Gallery, London, and his statue, "Sleep," and two bas-reliefs, one on a Biblical subject, "Jacob's Ladder," may be seen in the Royal Academy. There is a picture of Mr. Holiday in his studio amid his statuary in the life of Lewis Carroll, whose poem, "The Hunting of the Snark," this versatile artist illustrated with sympathetic humor. The stone reredos ordered by the Vestry as a fit setting for this mosaic altar-picture is after a design by Mr. George C. Mason, Jr., the architect of the Parish House. Other memorials given by the children of James Magee, for many

years a vestryman of the Parish, are: the large double window in memory of their father, in the transept, also by Holiday, the upper portion representing Eliezer, the faithful steward, and Rebekah at the well, and the lower part portraying Abraham entertaining three angels; the tablet to John Hart, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, on the west wall of the transept; and the new organ, which was given Easter, 1907, in memory of Eliza J. Magee, by her brothers and sisters. This great instrument, one of the largest in the city, was built from a scheme prepared by Dr. D. D. Wood, in consultation with the builder, C. T. Haskell, of Philadelphia, and has been universally admired by music-loving critics. The pipes were voiced in the building where they were to be played, an unusual and most admirable procedure, and the result has been a sweetness and just proportion of tone that reflect accurately the personality of the master who designed it and played it. It is of four manuals and pedals, and has 67 speaking stops, beside 50 mechanical stops and accessories. Its echo organ is located about 100 feet away from the main organ, in the loft over the chancel. The main organ weighs about ten tons, and is enclosed in a case of black walnut, 33 feet long by 18 feet deep, with a front of 133

pipes decorated in old gold. The total number of the speaking pipes is 4,218. They range in length from sixteen feet to half an inch, and their combined length would reach four miles. Their cross sections vary from four hundred square inches to nine two-hundred-and-fifty-sixths (9/256) of a square inch, that is to say, three-sixteenths of an inch square. The action is electro-pneumatic, and the organ contains five hundred and sixty electro-magnets, which, together with the cables connecting the various parts, required about twenty-five miles of wire for their construction.

Besides these memorials, the Church contains the window, by Tiffany, in memory of Albert Pancoast, representing Christ in the garden among the lilies, the only flower He mentions in the Evangels, and the accepted symbol of the resurrection-purity, the gift of Mrs. Albert Pancoast and her daughters; the double window in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Griffith; and the memorial window in the transept, in which is depicted in the golden after-glow of a cloudless and serene sunset " the faithful witness in heaven " of Psalm 89, verse 37, a memorial to Henrietta Constantia Wilkins, by her niece, Miss M. S. Wilkins. The artist and maker was Maitland Armstrong, of New York. The window in

memory of Mrs. Eliza Graham McDowell, from her husband, J. Austin McDowell, is a copy of a picture by Axel Ender, which hangs over the altar of a church in Molde, Northern Norway. The angelic visitant sits light as a bird on the edge of the tomb, and the wings are partly unfolded as if to steady the figure from swaying backward. On the eastern wall, near the reredos, and facing the pew where the Cadwaladers have sat for generations is one of the masterpieces of St. Gaudens, our greatest American sculptor, a memorial to Maria Gouverneur Mitchell, the daughter of Dr. S. Weir Mitchell and Mrs. Mary Cadwalader Mitchell, who consecrated much of her young life to the service of others in the Sunday Schools and charities of St. Stephen's, and in the duties incident to her official positions in the Church's organizations. The commission was given to St. Gaudens by Mrs. Mitchell, and the great sculptor, out of his strong sympathy for his bereaved friends, since he had a friendship of many years' standing with Dr. Mitchell, stopped all his other work to design this monument. It is generally spoken of as a modification of St. Gaudens' figure, "Amor, Caritas," in the possession of the French Government, and now at the Luxembourg; but

this is incorrect, for the pose, the expression, and the flowers are all different, and the artistic conceptions are diverse. St. Gaudens expressed himself as considering this figure, "The Angel of Purity." This exquisite memorial was given during the rectorship of Dr. Elwood Worcester, who succeeded Dr. McConnell in 1896. After Dr. Worcester went to Emmanuel Church, Boston, he was succeeded by Dr. Grammer, the present rector, in October, 1905, who, by a remarkable coincidence was called from the rectorship of the same church, Christ Church, Norfolk, of which Dr. Ducachet was rector just before he came to St. Stephen's.

On the walls are also tablets in memory of Crawford Arnold, sometime vestryman of St. Stephen's, and of Ellicott McConnell, a son of the former rector. There is a plate in the transept marking the vault of the Watson family. The last tablet placed in the Church was given by Miss Josephine Lewis as a memorial to her sister, Mrs. Juliet Hamersly Lewis Campbell, in whose memory an endowment fund was also given by the same donor for the relief of special cases of distress. The brass pulpit was one of the first brass pulpits erected in Philadelphia, and was considered a great innovation in its day. In the

front vestibule is a tablet in memory of William Brown, for thirty-seven years a bellringer in the Church.

Some of our most significant and valuable memorials are in the shape of endowments of pews, which preserve for all time the names of former worshipers in the very part of the Church where they once knelt in prayer, and also give permanent assistance toward the maintenance of the parochial activities. The endowed pews in St. Stephen's are:

No. 53—The Thomas A. Scott Pew.
No. 75—The Lippincott Pew.
No. 84—The Thomas Cadwalader Pew.
No. 134—The Wilkins Pew.

Any account of St. Stephen's would be incomplete that did not mention the noon-day Lenten services, which are held in it daily during Lent. The attendance at these services is phenomenal, reaching in 1909 the total of 25,300, a daily average of 632. These services are conducted under the auspices of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew through the Chapter in St. Stephen's Church.

The organist in St. Stephen's for the last forty-six years has been David D. Wood, Doctor of Music. Dr. Wood is well known as a distin-

guished composer, and will probably be remembered longest in that capacity; but he is also a great organist and choirmaster, and has made the music of St. Stephen's famous. His own music, which can be heard nowhere else, as it has not yet been published in any completeness, is often sung by the choir, and is much praised for the richness of its harmonies and the artistic elaboration of its themes.

Some idea of the activities of the Parish may be gathered from the list of its societies and organizations, but some special explanation ought to be made about the farm. St. Stephen's Farm, in Bucks County, Warminster Township, was purchased in 1898 during the rectorship of Dr. Worcester and at his suggestion, to provide summer outings for our city workers. Its total cost was over $15,000, which the improvements brought up to $16,500. Eight thousand dollars were subscribed by the congregation ($1,000 of it by Mrs. Russell), and a mortgage was carried till, in the spring of 1901, Mrs. S. Weir Mitchell added to her long list of benefactions by placing in the hands of the rector the munificent sum of $10,000 for the benefit of the farm. The only condition attached to the gift was if at any time it

should be found necessary to dispose of the farm, $8,000 are to be turned over to the permanent endowment fund of St. Stephen's Church. At first only women and girls were received, but for the last two years the boys have been given two weeks, with noticeably good results. The expenses are provided partly by the generous gifts of a few friends, partly by the Easter offering, and partly by the products of the farm itself and the payments of the visitors. The farm is rectangular, and consists of one hundred acres, of which eight acres are woodland, eight acres are covered with orchards of apple, pear and peach trees, and one acre consists of a very choice vineyard. The main house will hold about fifty. Behind and beside it are the barn, outhouses and the farmer's neat home, and stretching out in front of it is a wide expanse of peaceful and charming landscape. This retreat has been a true haven of rest to many invalid and tired folk. The exact number of visitors for 1909 were 460 for an average of 12 days each, with 314 besides for the day.

Postscript.

While this little pamphlet was in the press, our great and beloved organist, David Duffle Wood, Doctor of Music, was taken from us. He came to St. Stephen's on Good Friday, March 25th, 1864, and had looked forward with much interest to the coincidence of dates this year, when, after forty-six years, Good Friday would again fall on March the 25th; but early on that looked-for morning he was taken seriously ill, and shortly after noon-tide on Easter-day he outsoared the shadow of our night and joined the choir invisible. As a choirmaster he was unique in his power of ruling by love and in his ability to blend many voices into a rich and harmonious whole; as an organist he was, in spite of his blindness, a finished executant, and perhaps because of his blindness remarkably rich and sympathetic in his harmonies, while his wide, general culture gave him great breadth and comprehension in his interpretations. As a composer of sacred music

Postscript.

he was classic in form, graceful and melodious, intricate and subtle in modulation, a master of pathos and longing. As a teacher he drew to him many pupils, and fastened their souls to his with hooks of steel; as a man he knew how to bear the great limitation of his life-long blindness with dignity and entire submission. As a Christian he had the simple faith of a child. He dwelt in an inner region of light, love and harmony, and will long be held in loving memory as a master musician and a beautiful Christian character.

Quis desiderio sit pudor aut modus
Tam cari capitis? Præcipe lugubres
Cantus, Melpomene, cui liquidam Pater
Vocem cum cithara dedit.

A list of the Societies and Departments of Work in St. Stephen's, with their Hours of Meeting

1. The Sunday Schools—Meeting in the building back of Church—Sunday, 9.45 a. m.
2. St. Stephen's Farm—Warminster, Bucks Co., Pa., open June, July, August, September.
3. The Benevolent Society—All meetings in the Parish House, first Thursday of each Month, 11.45 a. m.
4. Garment Committee—Every Thursday in S. S. Building from 11 to 12 m.
5. Woman's Auxiliary—Third Thursday of each Month, 11 a. m., Parish House.
6. Missionary Box Committee—First Thursday of each Month, 10.30 a. m.
7. Altar Society—In the Vestry—third Tuesday of each Month, 11.30 a. m.
8. St. Stephen's Aid Society—Fridays, during Lent, at 10 a. m., in Parish House.
9. Mothers' Meeting—Thursdays, 8 p. m., Parish House.
10. Children's Friend Society.
11. Girls' Friendly Society—Mondays, 7 to 9.30 p. m., Parish House.
12. Candidates of Girls' Friendly Society—Every Saturday, 9.30 a. m., Parish House.
13. King's Daughters of St. Stephen's—First and Third Wednesdays of the Month, 7.45 p. m.
14. Alpha Kappa Fraternity—S. S. Building and Parish House, first and third Friday of each Month at 8 p. m.
15. Kitchen Garden—Saturdays 11 to 12.30, S. S. room.
16. St. Stephen's Chapter of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew—Second and Fourth Tuesday of each Month at 8 p. m. in Parish House.